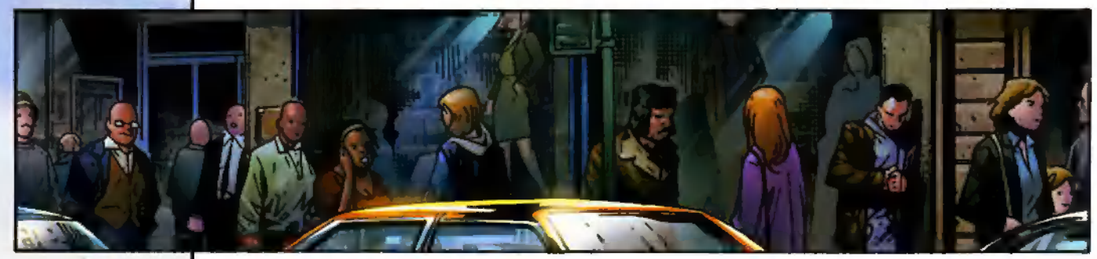
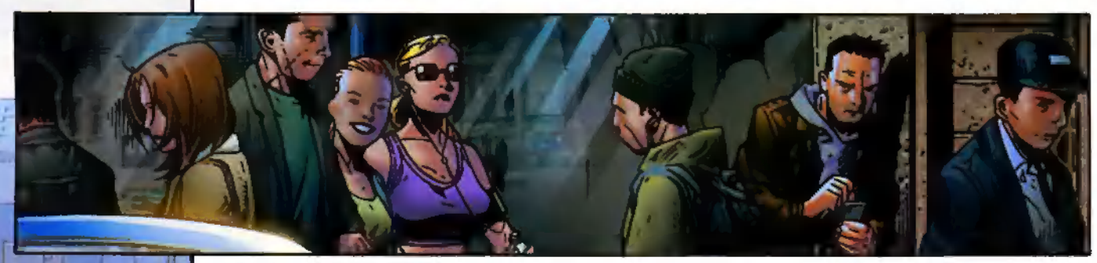
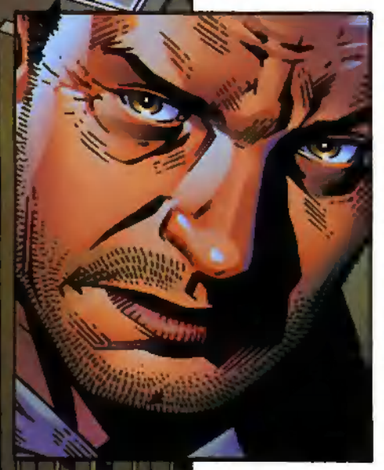
AVENGERS TOWER, NEW YORK CITY

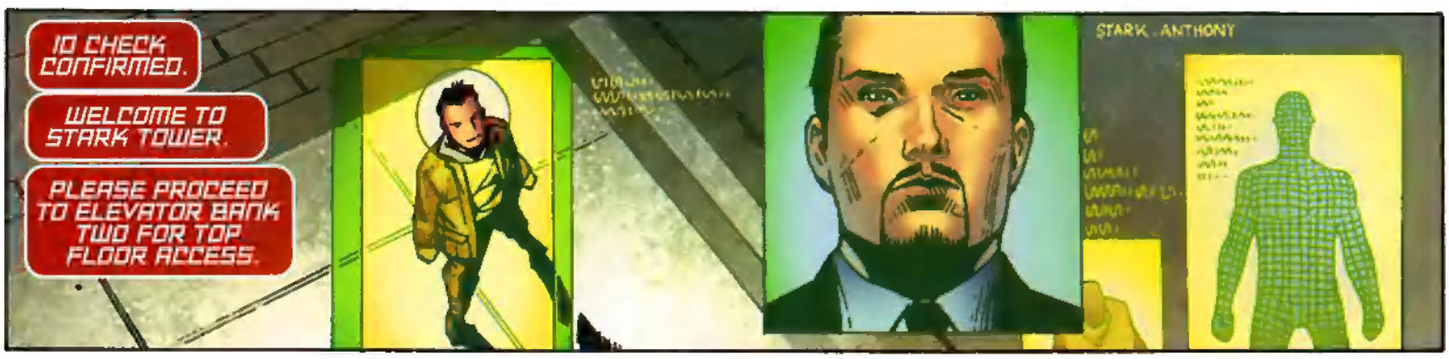






WELCOME TO STARK TOWER.
IDENTIFICATION PLEASE.

ANTHONY STARK.
PASSWORD: 45654


ID CHECK CONFIRMED.
WELCOME TO STARK TOWER.
PLEASE PROCEED TO ELEVATOR BANK TWO FOR TOP FLOOR ACCESS.
STARK, ANTHONY

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER,
1000 FEET OVER WASHINGTON, D.C.
COMMANDER HILL, COULD YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THIS?
WHAT IS THAT?
WE INTERCEPTED A NEW YORK CITY POLICE SCANNER REPORT THAT SAID THE S.H.I.E.L.D. GUARD UNIT STATIONED OUTSIDE AVENGERS TOWER WAS DOWN.
DOWN?
BUT WE JUST CALLED IN AND THEY RESPONDED FINE.
LET ME TALK TO THEM.
AVENGERS TOWER GUARD, REPORT IN.
NOTHING TO REPORT. EVERYTHING IS FINE DOWN HERE.
THE POLICE SCANNER SAID YOU GUYS WERE DOWN.
NOTHING TO REPORT. EVERYTHING IS FINE DOWN HERE.
PULL UP A SATELLITE.
TIGHTER.
MUCH TIGHTER.

WHAT THE---?
FORCE UNIT NINE, WE NEED A CONFIRMATION ON YOUR POSITION.
NOTHING TO REPORT. EVERYTHING IS FINE DOWN HERE.
FORCE UNIT NINE, THIS IS COMMANDER HILL— COULD YOU COME UP HERE AND MAKE OUT WITH ME?
NOTHING TO REPORT. EVERYTHING IS FINE DOWN HERE.
ALL UNITS!
DELTA NINER SISCO TAYLOR!
GO GO GO!
OH MY GOD!
HAZARD • INTERVENTION

ANYTHING?
NOTHING.
THESE MEN ON THE GROUND?
SAID THEIR SUITS JUST FROZE AND THEY FELL OVER.
FELL OVER?
THEY DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING.
THEY'RE OKAY. WE'RE GONNA GET THEM OUT OF THE SUITS AND DO SOME TESTS.

ANY WORD FROM TONY STARK?
HE IS COMPLETELY OFF THE GRID.
HE DOESN'T GO OFF THE GRID. HE *IS* THE GRID.
I KNOW, MA'AM.
THERE'S A *WAR* GOING ON.
YES, MA'AM.

YOU KNOW, WHAT I NOTICED AS YOUR LITTLE SUPER HERO WAR WENT ON...
...AS YOU WENT ABOUT MAKING THE WORLD OVER IN YOUR OWN IMAGE...
...I NOTICED YOU STOPPED COMING OUT OF THE ARMOR.

ANY WORD FROM THE TOWER?
NONE.
YOU TRIED.
MA'AM, OF COURSE, MA'AM.
NO ONE'S ANSWERING.

HELLO?
ARE YOU NOT GOING TO ANSWER ME?

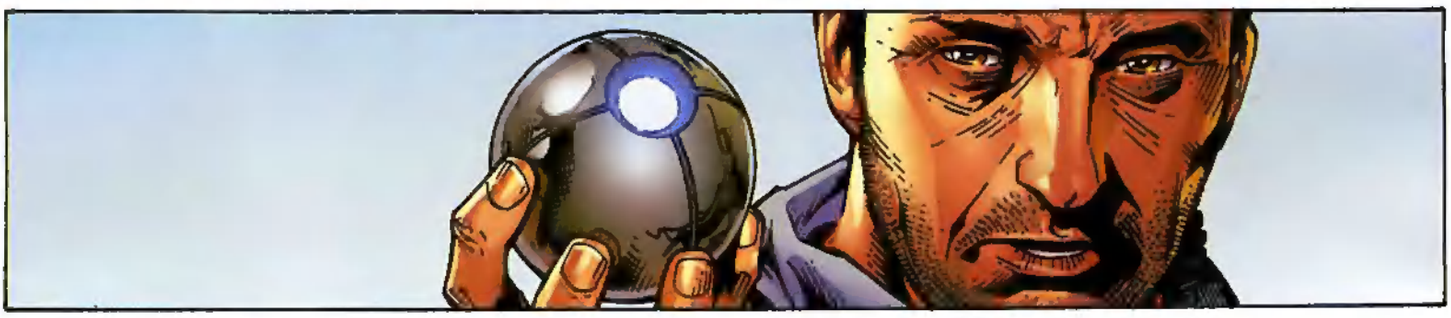
ANYTHING OFF OF THE SATELLITES?
NO. NOTHING.
THE TOWER IS GUARDED AGAINST SPYING EYES, ANYHOW. STARKTECH.
YAY FOR STARKTECH.
YOU'RE HIDING BEHIND YOUR TECHNOLOGY, TONY.
WHAT DID YOU TELL ME THE FIRST DAY I MET YOU?
THE DAY YOU PLUCKED ME OUT OF COLLEGE AND GAVE ME THE WORLD?
YOU SAID: "WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T HIDE BEHIND YOUR GENIUS."
YOUR WORDS.
AND NOW LOOK AT YOU.
IS THERE A CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THIS BUILDING?
NO, MA'AM, IT'S A RELATIVELY NEW BUILDING, AND WE NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO DO A RECON ON THE SENTRY'S WATCHTOWER BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR STARTED.
WHO KNOWS WHAT'S IN THERE? IT MIGHT LOOK LIKE KEVIN SPACEY'S APARTMENT IN SEVEN.
COULD IT BE THAT, NOT SO DEEP INSIDE, YOU'RE ASHAMED OF WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
OR MAYBE YOU THINK IF YOU KEEP THE ARMOR ON, IT'S OKAY TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO WHOEVER YOU WANT.
BECAUSE IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S HAPPENING ON TELEVISION AND IT'S NOT REALLY REAL.
I'M GOING IN.
WELL, IT IS.
BUT I WANT YOU TO SEE THIS.
I WANT YOU TO FEEL IT AS IT HAPPENS.

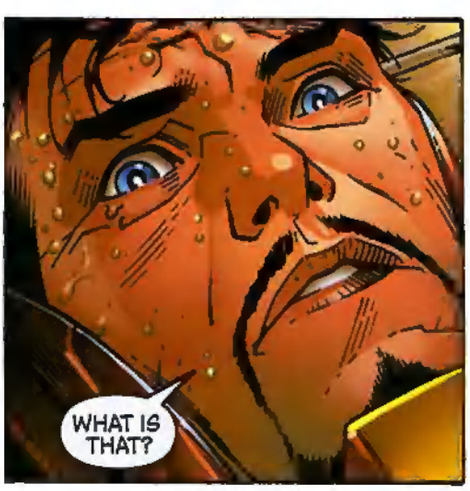
GUAAAHGGHH--
NUH!
GASP
GUGGHH!

FORGOT IT'S HARD TO BREATHE IN THERE WITH A FULL SYSTEM SHUTDOWN.
CUTTING OFF YOUR PRIMARY POWER SOURCE WHEN YOUR TECH IS BIOLOGICALLY INTEGRATED IS A LITTLE ROUGH ON YOU *PHYSICALLY*, RIGHT?
WHAT DOES IT FEEL LIKE? THE FLU?

YOU FEELING FLUISH?
WE NEVER LOOKED INTO THAT ASPECT OF YOUR NEW POWERS, WE NEVER TESTED IT.
I KNOW YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR HEART.
KENNY, IF YOU'RE MAD AT ME, THERE ARE BETTER WAYS TO GET MY ATTENTION.

IF *ONLY* THAT WERE TRUE.
CLANG




WHAT IS THAT?

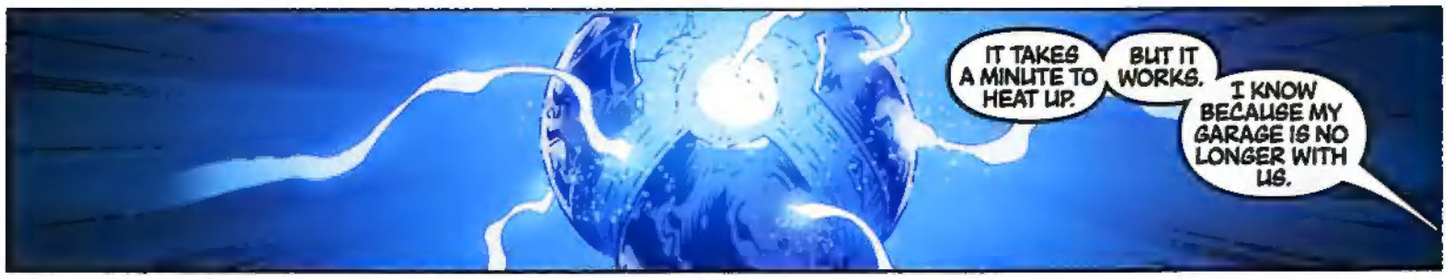
ANTIMATTER GENERATOR.

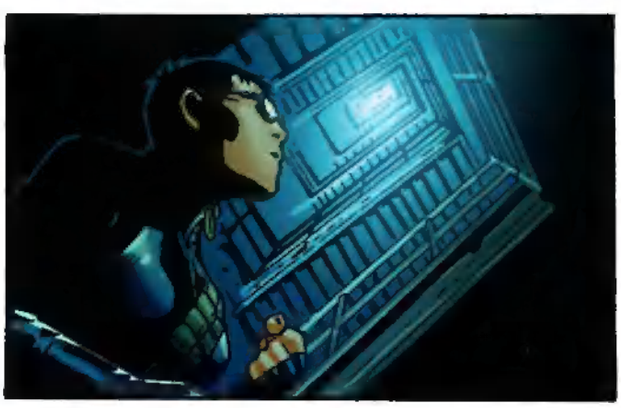
YOU REMEMBER THIS PIECE?
IT'S THE MATTER REVERSAL PROCESSOR THAT YOU WOULDN'T LET ME BUILD.
I BUILT IT ANYHOW, AND THIS BUILDING IS GOING TO DISAPPEAR.

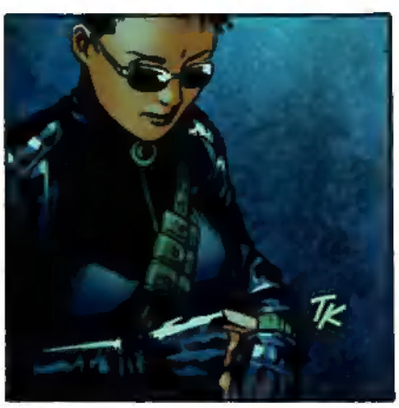
FSSSS

THE PHYSICAL SPACE AND MATTER THAT MAKES UP THIS BUILDING IS GOING TO FOLD IN ON ITSELF UNTIL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO FOLD INTO.
AND THEN WHEN PEOPLE LOOK OUT THEIR WINDOWS AND SEE THE AVENGERS TOWER IS GONE FROM WHERE IT ONCE STOOD...

...MAYBE *THEN* THEY'LL STOP WITH THIS *"WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?"* CRAP.
BECAUSE YOU'LL *HAVE* NO SIDES.


IT TAKES A MINUTE TO HEAT UP.
BUT IT WORKS.
I KNOW BECAUSE MY GARAGE IS NO LONGER WITH US.



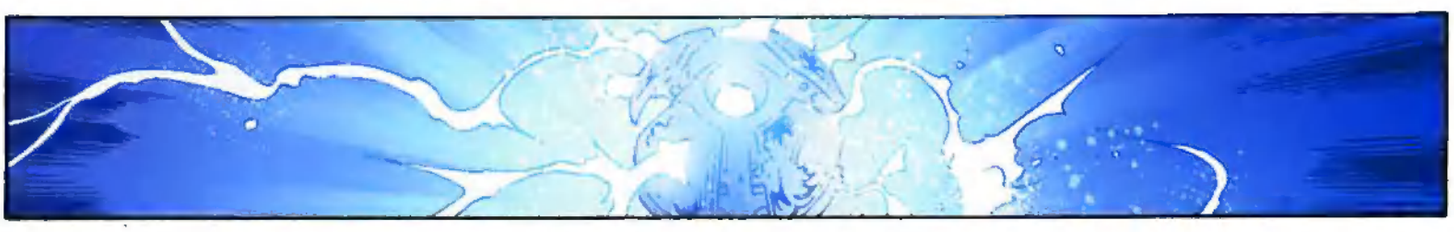

TK

I DON'T WANT TO KILL ANYONE I DON'T HAVE TO.
AND I DON'T WANT TO DO ANY MORE DAMAGE TO THIS CITY THAN HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE.

I FIGURE THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO MAKE MY POINT WITHOUT HURTING ANYONE.
EXCEPT, YOU KNOW, ME AND YOU.
AND THE BUTLER DUDE.

IF YOU KILL US, IF YOU KILL ME HERE...IT'LL JUST MAKE ME A MARTYR.
NO ONE WILL KNOW WHY YOU DID THIS. NO ONE WILL KNOW, AND THEY'LL ASSUME SOME VILLAIN OR THE RESISTANCE GOT TO ME.

THAT'S WHY GOD INVENTED THE BLOGOSPHERE.
I'VE ALREADY POSTED. I'LL BE HEARD.
THANKS FOR YOUR CONCERN. WANT A DRINK?
HEY, SCREW YOUR TWELVE STEPS, YOU'RE ALMOST OUT OF HERE.
YOU WANT?



WHAT DID I DO TO YOU, EXACTLY?

YOU STOLE MY WORK!

I PAID YOU FOR THAT WORK!
YOU WORK FOR ME.
YOU AGREED TO THE DEAL. I OWN IT!
LOOK AT ME, TONY! I'M NOT SOME BIPOLAR SICKO IN A CAPE!
I'M A LOYAL FRIEND AND CONFIDANT WHO IS SO DISGUSTED AND BETRAYED BY YOU THAT I'D RATHER NOT BREATHE THAN GO ON ONE SECOND MORE!
SO DON'T SEMANTIC ME, DON'T PATRONIZE ME, AND DON'T TRY TO WEASEL YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS!
YOU HIRED ME TO CREATE SOMETHING THAT YOU PROMISED WAS FOR ONE THING, AND THEN YOU TURNED IT INTO THOSE CAPEKILLER ARMORS!
YOU DECLARED WAR ON AN IDEAL I PROFOUNDLY BELIEVE IN!
CIRCA NINETY FORGER!
AND I'M SMARTER THAN YOU.
I DISMANTLED YOUR OVERRIDE CODES WHEN I SHUT YOU DOWN, TONY.
THE ARMOR'S OFF AND IT'S STAYING OFF. YOU'RE GOING TO SIT THERE AND TAKE IT.
I WONDER WHAT IT'LL FEEL LIKE NOT TO EXIST.
BECAUSE, FRANKLY, I COULD USE THE--
THUP